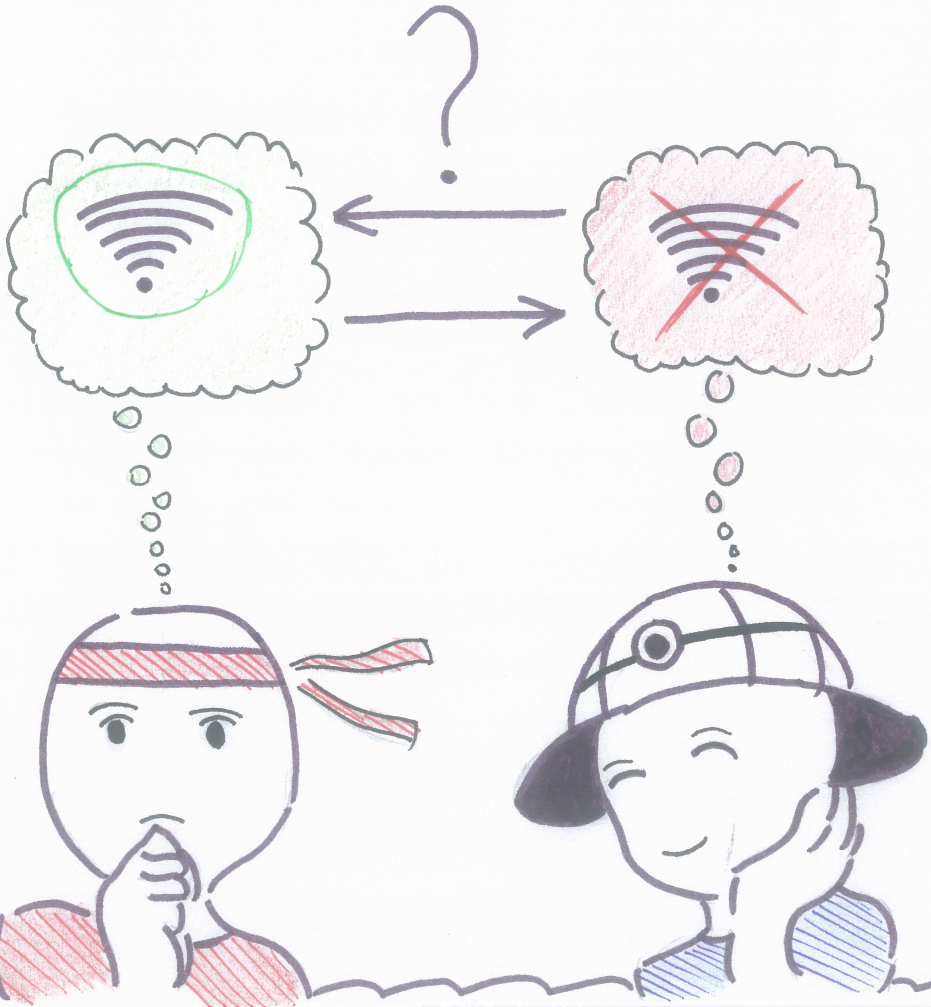
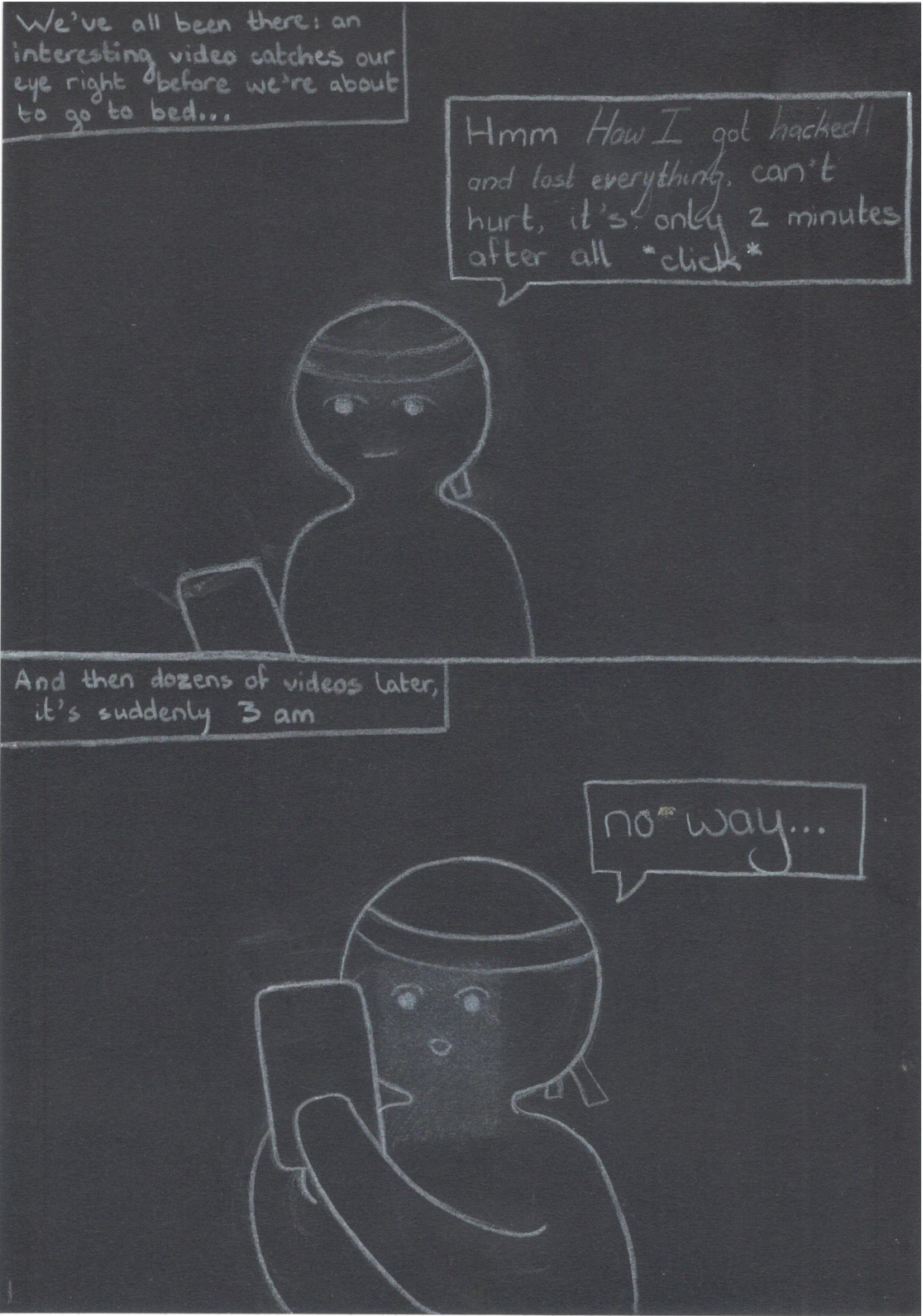
A simplified introduction to DATA AWARENESS in ANTHROPOLOGY




We've all been there: an interesting video catches our eye right before we're about to go to bed...
Hmm How I got hacked! and lost everything. can't hurt, it's only 2 minutes after all *click*
And then dozens of videos later, it's suddenly 3 am
no way...

The next day
Well that was quite the rabbithole I went down last night...
But I mean, it's not such a big deal right..?
Who would even want acces to my amateuristic research?
But what if?

I suppose it doesn't hurt to look what I can do to secure my data

Okay let's see. This seems like a good place to start: turning on two-factor authentication on my inbox

then I just have to enter a code that I receive on my phone whenever I log in

Wow! Apparently Windows and MacOS have built-in-full-disk-encryption

all I need to do to encrypt my harddrive is turn it on!

Oh and I can replace

WhatsApp → with → Signal

Not only will my messages, pictures and videos be encrypted, I can even use it to make secure phone calls!

And instead of using Google as a search engine, I can use

DuckDuckGo

or even take it a step further and use Tor

Somewhere

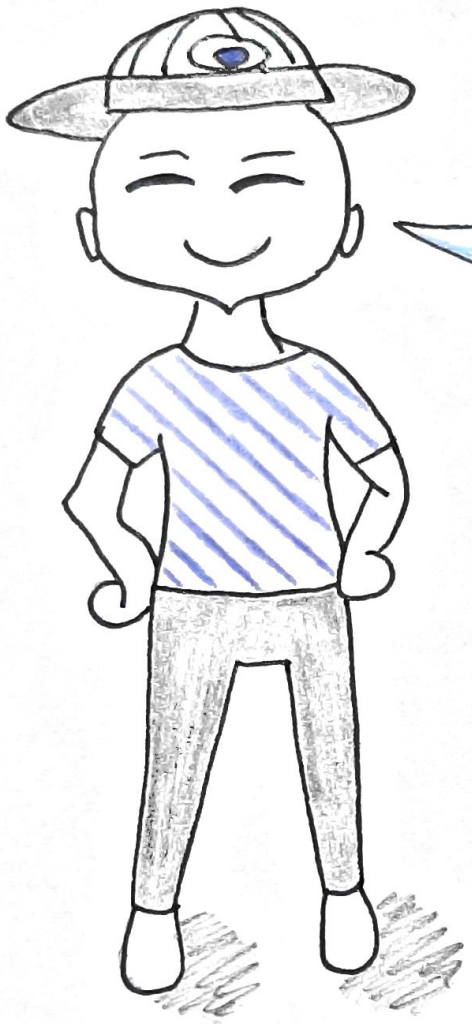
else

in

the

galaxy

...



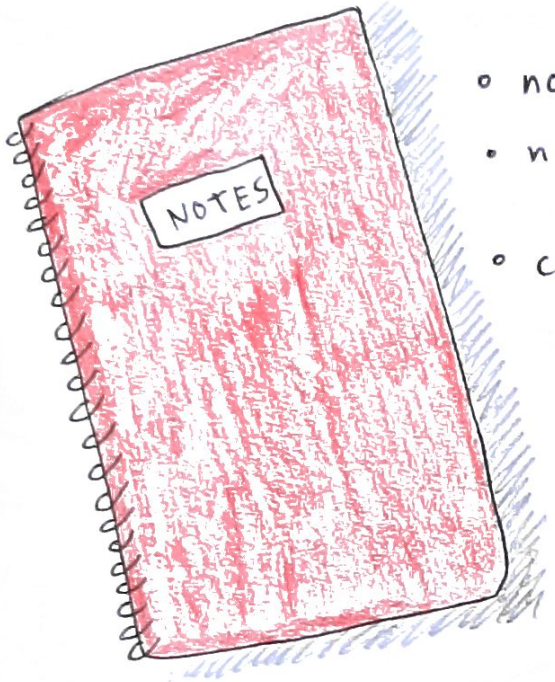
Hi there!

I am Otto offgrid, an anthropologist that doesn't use online devices.

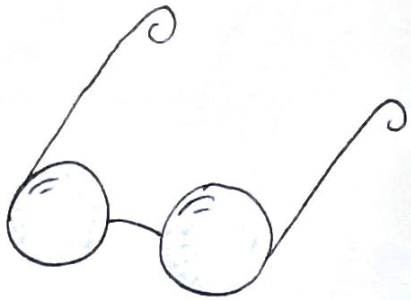
You might think I'm oldfashioned, but first let me show you the methods I use!

NO WIFI ZONE : turn off devices

Notebook



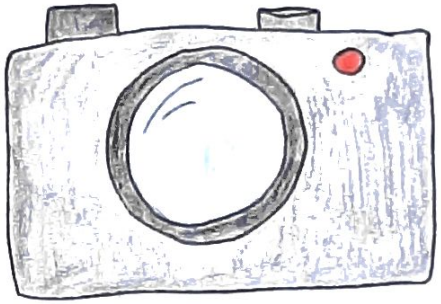
- non-hackable
- no wifi connection needed
- cheap to buy & easy access



When making notes:

- use pseudonyms
- don't write down sensitive information all in one place (phone numbers, addresses)

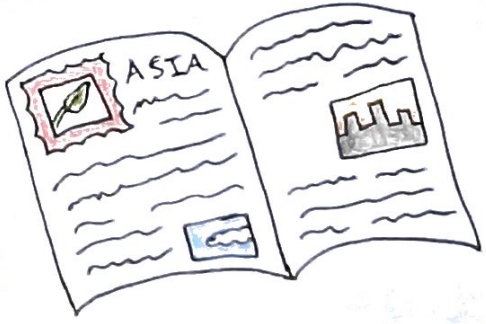
Instead of using a

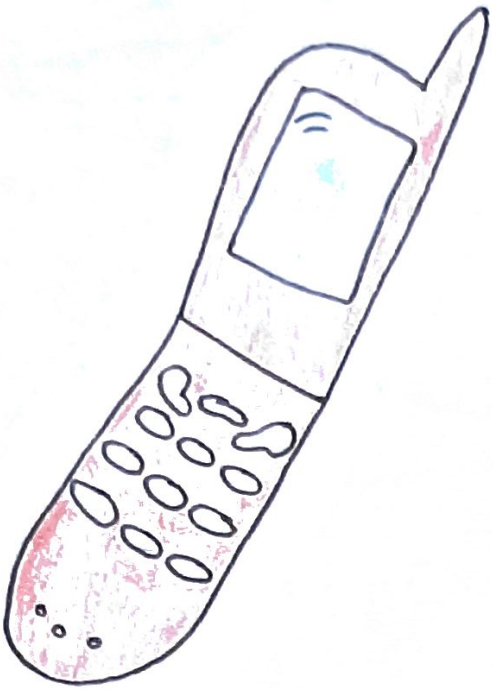


CAMERA

Try using your own imagination and draw what you see (just like Hendrickson: 2005)

↳ Ethnography



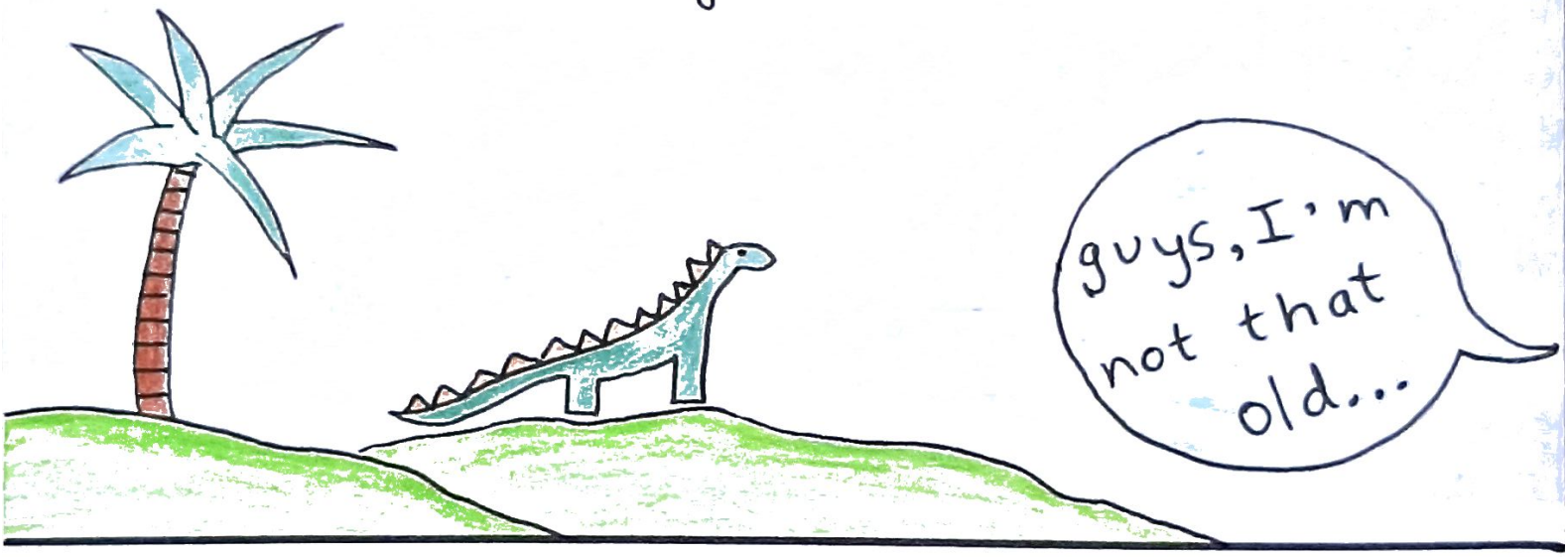


Instead of using
a S·M·A·R·T P·H·O·N·E

consider an ~~old~~

FLIP PHONE

→ again, no wifi needed...



Always store your data in a **Safe place**

- not in plain sight on your desk, but in a safe or a cabinet

Hey Hey, sorry to keep you waiting!
You sure know how to make an entrance...

But hey now, what if I have a huge survey that I need to quantitatively analyse? I can't use paper for that!

That's true :), it also depends on your Field and research methods. Digital tools shouldn't blind you to the other research you have however!

Honestly, I still think you're a bit of a weirdo :/-

That's okay, just think of me as the old-school anthropologist within you.

So what's important is that these methods aren't mutually exclusive?
Exactly! Both encrypting your data and using analog methods aids in ensuring privacy!
That sounds pretty daunting...
I know, but in the age of cyber security, ethical research is not possible without thinking about data. It's our responsibility as researchers!

In other words...

Credits:

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Sources used for this work

https://ssd.eff.org/en/module/keeping-your-data-safe
https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/tor-signal-and-beyond-a-law-abiding-citizens-guide-to-privacy-1a593f2104c3/
https://ssd.eff.org/en/module/choosing-your-tools

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